

-12-49-8
Henry Hackett House (Site)
Big Woods community
Private

c. 1873

This two story frame house was the home of a black landowning family which was descended from free blacks who had owned property in the county during the ante-bellum era. Their descendants continue to live in the communities they helped to found.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Magi #
M-12-42-9

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Henry Hackett House (site)

ANO/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

East side of Big Woods Road

CITY, TOWN

Dickerson

___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

8

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Montgomery

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

___DISTRICT

___BUILDING(S)

___STRUCTURE

☒SITE

___OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

___PUBLIC

☒PRIVATE

___BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

___IN PROCESS

___BEING CONSIDERED

No

STATUS

___OCCUPIED

☒UNOCCUPIED

___WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒YES: RESTRICTED

___YES: UNRESTRICTED

___NO

PRESENT USE

___AGRICULTURE

___COMMERCIAL

___EDUCATIONAL

___ENTERTAINMENT

___GOVERNMENT

___INDUSTRIAL

___MILITARY

___MUSEUM

___PARK

___PRIVATE RESIDENCE

___RELIGIOUS

___SCIENTIFIC

___TRANSPORTATION

☒OTHER: Woods

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

J. J. and M. M. Rast

Telephone #: 301-762-5689

STREET & NUMBER

12700 Circle Dr.

270-1466

CITY, TOWN

Rockville,

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Md.

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE.
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Registry of Deeds

Liber #: 2654

Folio #: 189

STREET & NUMBER

Montgomery County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

OATE

___FEDERAL ___STATE ___COUNTY ___LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

M:12-42-9

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☒ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

According to Idella Craven, the granddaughter of Henry Hackett, this house burned around 1925. As she remembers it, it was a two story frame house somewhat larger than the other homes of black families in Big Woods. The houses of Henry Onley and John Onley are examples of the type that still remain. According to Ms. Craven, the principal block had two rooms down and two rooms up with the kitchen attached to one gable end. The interior was warmed by wood stoves. Behind the house were the typical outbuildings: meat house, hen house, and privy. There was also a large vegetable garden. She remembers especially the front of the house as having been "lovely." Her grandmother had planted numerous flowers and shrubs such as peonies and lilacs. There were also fruit trees around the house and a large walnut tree, the nuts of which were gathered and used for baking.

Among the "special things" that Ms. Craven remembers was the pie safe in the kitchen with tin panels and the large kitchen stove whose brand name was "Home Comfort." Her grandparents also had large wooden tubs with handles.

The site is now overgrown in woods and nothing remains to be seen.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	__ ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	__ LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	__ RELIGION	
1400-1499	__ ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__ CONSERVATION	__ LAW	__ SCIENCE	
1500-1599	__ AGRICULTURE	__ ECONOMICS	__ LITERATURE	__ SCULPTURE	
1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	__ EDUCATION	__ MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
1700-1799	__ ART	__ ENGINEERING	__ MUSIC	__ THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	__ COMMERCE	__ EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__ PHILOSOPHY	__ TRANSPORTATION	
1900-	__ COMMUNICATIONS	__ INDUSTRY	__ POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		__ INVENTION			

Black History

SPECIFIC DATES

c. 1873

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This house stood on the property purchased by Henry Hackett in 1873 from the trustees of the Hempstone estate, as recorded in deed EBP 15/179. This property was therefore purchased in the same year as the tracts bought by Hackett's neighbors, Henry T. Onley and Lewis Brown. The Hackett property was located near the property owned by the Spencer family, an antebellum Black landowning family.

This family is important in the history of black communities in upper western Montgomery County. The Hackett family was related to the Duffins through marriage. See the Duffin family Bible in the possession of Edna Duffin Johnson, White Grounds community, M-18-11-3.

Henry Hackett married Sarah Catherine Spencer, born in 1852, the daughter of Phillip and Ellen Spencer, who were free blacks. The Spencer family founded the Big Woods community in the early 1800's. See the Spencer family tree included with this report for more details.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Land records, Montgomery County Courthouse, Rockville, Maryland.

Deed EBP/15/179.

U. S. Census, 1980, Montgomery County, p. 28.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES**

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

George W. McDaniel

ORGANIZATION

Sugarloaf Regional Trails

DATE

January 1979

STREET & NUMBER

Box 87

TELEPHONE

926-4510

CITY OR TOWN

Dickerson

STATE

Maryland 20753

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: ~~Maryland Historical Trust~~
~~The Shaw House, 21 State Circle~~
~~Annapolis, Maryland 21401~~
~~(301) 267-1438~~

SUGARLOAF REGIONAL TRAILS
 Box 87, Dickerson, MD 20753
 (301) 926-4510